

the eye, could we see it without absorption, these figures appear to show conclusively that it would be *blue*. Not to rely on any assumption, however, we have by various methods at Alleghany, reproduced this colour.

Thus (to indicate roughly the principle used), taking three Maxwell's discs, a red, green, and blue, so as to reproduce white, we note the three corresponding ordinates at the earth's surface spectrum, and comparing these with the same ordinates in the curve giving the energy at the solar surface; we re-arrange the discs, so as to give the proportion of red, green, and blue which would be seen *there*, and obtain by their revolution a tint which must approximately represent that at the photosphere, and which is most similar to that of a blue near Fraunhofer's "F."

The conclusion then is that while all radiations emanate from the solar surface, including red and infra-red, in greater degree than we receive them, that the blue end is so enormously greater in proportion, that the proper colour of the sun, as seen at the photosphere, is blue—not only "bluish," but positively and distinctly blue; a statement which I have not ventured to make from any conjecture, or on any less cause than on the sole ground of long continued experiments, which, commenced some seven years since, have within the past two years irresistibly tended to the present conclusion.

The mass of observations on which it rests must be reserved for more detailed publication elsewhere, at present I can only thank the Association for the courtesy which has given me the much prized opportunity of laying before them this indication of methods and results.

## UNDERGROUND TEMPERATURE<sup>1</sup>

### II.

#### E. WE NOW PROCEED TO A COMPARISON OF RESULTS.

THE localities at which definite results have been obtained may thus be classified:—

#### 1. Metallic mines. 2. Coal mines. 3. Wells and wet borings. 4. Tunnels.

1. The mines at Prziham in Bohemia, with a depth of 1900 feet, are in very quartzose rock, and give a very slow rate of increase, viz.  $1^{\circ}$  F. in 135 feet. As all the shafts are in lofty hills, an allowance of  $\frac{1}{15}$  may be made for convexity, leaving  $1^{\circ}$  F. in 126 feet. Quartz is found by Prof. Herschel to have a conductivity of about '0086.

The mines at Schemnitz in Hungary, with a depth of 1368 feet, give an average rate of  $1^{\circ}$  F. in 74 feet, the rock being a green hornblende-andesite (in German, *Grünstein-Trachyt*), which is a compact, fine-grained, crystalline, more or less vitreous rock. Prof. Lebour estimates its conductivity as being probably nearly the same as that of Calton Hill trap-rock, which Prof. Herschel found to be about '0029.

#### 2. The principal results from coal mines are as follows:—

The mines of the Société Cockeril at Seraing (Belgium), with a depth of 1657 feet, give an average rate of  $1^{\circ}$  F. in 50 feet. The rock is coal shale. Prof. Herschel found for shale the low conductivity '0019.

The mines of Anzin, in the north of France, with a depth of 658 feet, gave in the deepest shaft an increase of  $1^{\circ}$  in 47 feet.

Rosebridge Colliery, near Wigan, with a depth of 2445 feet, gave a mean rate of  $1^{\circ}$  in 54 feet.

#### The four following are in the East Manchester coalfield:—

Astley Pit, Dukinfield, with a depth of 2700 feet, gave a mean rate of  $1^{\circ}$  in 72 feet.

Ashton Moss Colliery, with a depth of 2790 feet, gave  $1^{\circ}$  in 77 feet.

Bredbury Colliery, with a depth of 1020 feet, gave  $1^{\circ}$  in 78.5 feet.

Nook Pit, with a depth of 1050 feet, gave  $1^{\circ}$  in 79 feet.

South Hetton Colliery, Durham, with a depth of 1929 feet, including a bore hole at bottom, gives very consistent observations at various depths, and an average rate of  $1^{\circ}$  in 57.5 feet.

Boldon Colliery, between Newcastle and Sunderland, with a depth of 1514 feet, and excellent conditions of observation, gives an average rate of  $1^{\circ}$  in 49 feet.

Kingswood Colliery, near Bristol, with a depth of 1769 feet, and remarkable consistency between observations at various points, gives  $1^{\circ}$  in 68 feet.

Prof. Phillips' observations in Monkwearmouth Colliery, published in *Phil. Mag.* for December 1834, showed a temperature

<sup>1</sup> Continued from p. 567.

of  $71.2$  in a hole bored in the floor of a recently exposed part at the depth of 1584 feet. The surface of the ground is 87 feet above high water, and the mean temperature of the air is assumed by Prof. Phillips to be  $47.6$ . If, as usual, we add  $1^{\circ}$  to get the soil temperature, instead of assuming, as Prof. Phillips does, that the temperature 100 feet deep is identical with the air temperature at the surface, we obtain a rate of increase of  $1^{\circ}$  in 70 feet.

3. The following are the most trustworthy results from wells and borings:—

The Sperenberg bore, near Berlin, in rock salt, with a depth of 3492 English feet, to the deepest reliable observation, gave an average of  $1^{\circ}$  in 51.5 feet. This result is entitled to special weight, not only on account of the great depth, but also on account of the powerful means employed to exclude convection.

Rock salt, according to Prof. Herschel, has the very high conductivity '0113.

Three artesian well in the chalk of the Paris Basin gave the following results:—

	Feet.	Rate.
St. Andre, depth of observation ...	830 ...	$1^{\circ}$ in 56.4
Grenelle ... ..	1312 ...	$1^{\circ}$ in 56.9
Military School ... ..	568 ...	$1^{\circ}$ in 56.2

An artesian well at St. Petersburg, in the Lower Silurian strata, with a depth of 656 feet, gave about  $1^{\circ}$  in 44 feet.

A well sunk at Yakoutsk, in Siberia, to the depth of 540 feet, disclosed the fact that the ground was permanently frozen to this depth, and probably to the depth of 700 feet. The rate of increase of temperature was  $1^{\circ}$  in 52 feet.

Of the English wells in which observations have been taken, the most important is that at Kentish Town, in which Mr. G. J. Symons, F.R.S., has taken observations to the depth of 1100 feet. The temperatures at different depths form a smooth series, and have been confirmed by observations repeated at long intervals. The only question that can arise as to the accuracy of the results is the possibility of their being affected by convection.

The well is 8 feet in diameter, with brickwork to the depth of 540 feet, and this part of it is traversed by an iron tube 8 inches in diameter, which is continued to the depth of more than 1300 feet from the surface. The tube is choked with mud to the depth of about 1080 feet, so that the deepest observations were taken under 20 feet of mud. The temperature at 1100 feet was  $69^{\circ}.9$ , and by combining this with the surface temperature of  $49^{\circ}.9$  observed at the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, we obtain a rate of  $1^{\circ}$  in 55 feet. These data would give at 250 feet a calculated temperature of  $54.5$ , whereas the temperature actually observed at this depth was  $56.1$ , or  $1^{\circ}.6$  higher; the temperature at 300 feet and at 350 feet being also  $56.1$ . This seems to indicate convection, but it can be accounted for by convection in the 8-foot well which surrounds the tube, and does not imply convection currents within the tube. Convection currents are much more easily formed in water columns of large diameter than in small ones, and the 20 feet of mud at the bottom give some security against convection at the deepest point of observation. It is important to remark that the increase from 1050 to 1100 feet is rather less than the average instead of being decidedly greater, as it would be if there were convection above, but not in, the mud. The rate of  $1^{\circ}$  in 55 feet may therefore be adopted as correct.

The strata consist of tertiary strata, chalk (586 feet thick), upper greensand, and gault.

The Kentish Town temperature at the depth of 400 feet ( $58^{\circ}$ ) is confirmed by observations in Mr. Sich's well at Chiswick, which is 395 feet deep, and has a temperature varying from  $58^{\circ}$  to  $57^{\circ}.5$ .

The Bootle well, belonging to the Liverpool Waterworks, is 1302 feet deep, and the observations were taken in it during the sinking. The diameter of the bore is 24 inches, and convection might have been suspected but for the circumstance that there was a gradual upward flow of water from the bottom, which escaped from the upper part of the well by percolation to an underground reservoir near at hand. This would check the tendency to downflow of colder water from the top; and as the observations of temperature were always made at the bottom, they would thus be protected against convective disturbance.

The temperature at 226 feet was  $52^{\circ}$ , at 750 feet  $56^{\circ}$ , at 1302 feet  $59^{\circ}$ , giving by comparison of the first and last of these a mean rate of  $1^{\circ}$  in 154 feet. The circumstance that the boring





mines, especially where the data are known to be very accurate. Doubling the weights above assigned to Przibram, St. Gothard, Mont Cenis, Schemnitz, Kentish Town, Rosebridge, and Seraing, and quadrupling that assigned to Sprenberg, no material difference is made in the result. The mean still comes out  $1^{\circ}$  F. in 64 feet, or more exactly '01566 of a degree per foot.

This is a slower rate than has been generally assumed, but it has been fairly deduced from the evidence contained in the Committee's Reports; and there is no reason to throw doubt on the results in the upper portion of the above list more than on those in its lower portion. Any error that can reasonably be attributed to the data used in the calculations for the St. Gothard Tunnel and for the numerous deep mines of the East Manchester coalfield, will have only a trifling effect on the rates of increase assigned to these localities.

To obtain an approximation to the rate at which heat escapes annually from the earth, we will first reduce the above rate of increase '01566 to Centigrade degrees per centimetre of depth. For this purpose we must multiply by '0182, giving '00285.

To calculate the rate of escape of heat, this must be multiplied by the conductivity.

The most certain determinations yet made of the conductivity of a portion of the earth's substance are those deduced by Sir William Thomson by an indirect method, involving observations of underground thermometers at three stations at Edinburgh, combined with laboratory measurement of the specific heats and densities of the rocks in which the thermometers were planted. The specific heats were determined by Regnault, and the densities by Forbes. Specific heats and densities can be determined with great accuracy in the laboratory, but the direct determination of conductivity in the laboratory is exceedingly difficult, it being almost impossible to avoid sources of error which make the conductivity appear less than it really is.

Prof. Herschel, in conjunction with a Committee of the British Association, has made a very extensive and valuable series of direct measurements of the conductivities of a great variety of rocks, and has given additional certainty to his results by selecting as two of the subjects of his experiments the Calton Hill Trap and Craigleith sandstone, to which Sir William Thomson's determinations apply.

From combining Prof. Herschel's determinations with those of Sir Wm. Thomson, '0058 is adopted as the mean conductivity of the outer crust of the earth, which, being multiplied by the mean rate of increase, '00285, gives

$$16330 \times 10^{-10}$$

as the flow of heat in a second across a square centimetre. Multiplying by the number of seconds in a year, which is approximately  $31\frac{1}{2}$  millions, we have

$$1633 \times 315 \times 10^{-4} = 41'4.$$

This, then, is our estimate of the average number of gramme-degrees of heat that escape annually through each square centimetre of a horizontal section of the earth's substance.

### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

CAMBRIDGE.—The lists of Boards of Studies for the first time include the separate Boards of Physics and Chemistry, and of Biology and Geology, as constituted by the new Statutes. The Woodwardian Professor appears in both Boards. The Physiology Professor, not being yet appointed, only appears in brackets; the same is the case with the Professor of Pathology in the Board of Medical Studies.

The new Statute B having been finally approved, determines that in 1883 and 1884, a sum of between 5000*l.* and 6000*l.* in each year will become available for University purposes from College revenues, subject only to deduction of 40*l.* by each College for each Professorial Fellowship held at the College.

The Professors of Physiology, Pathology, and Mental Philosophy and Logic are to be appointed in such order as the University may think fit, as soon as sufficient funds can be provided conveniently for the purpose from the common University fund, or from other sources. The Professors of Physiology and of Pathology are not to undertake the private practice of medicine or surgery. The stipends are fixed at 800*l.* for these two Professors, and 700*l.* for the Professor of Mental Philosophy.

The appointment of Readers is similarly dependent on the convenient provision of funds. Thus, until the Council of the

Senate has published its recommendations, nothing certain can be said as to the objects upon which it will be thought wisest first to expend the new funds accruing. But it must not be forgotten that a considerable amount of the new income will be required to pay the increased stipends of present professors.

Prof. Liveing will lecture on the General Principles of Chemistry this term, and also take practical classes in spectroscopic analysis. Prof. Dewar will lecture on Physical Chemistry, and Tutorial lectures will be given in connection with this course by Mr. A. Scott, Prof. Dewar's assistant. Demonstrations in volumetric chemistry will be given by one of the demonstrators.

Lord Rayleigh will lecture on Electrical Measurements to advanced students; Mr. Glazebrook will give demonstrations on Electricity and Magnetism, and Mr. Shaw on Heat in the Cavendish Laboratory. Mr. Trotter will give an elementary course on Electricity and Magnetism at Trinity College, and also a course on Optics and Light.

Mr. Vines will lecture on the Physiology of Plants, at Christ's College, in connection with practical work, and will also give an elementary course at the New Museums, especially for medical students. The Assistant Curator of the Herbarium, Mr. T. H. Corry, B.A., of Caius College, will give a series of demonstrations on the natural orders of plants.

Prof. Stuart will lecture on Mechanism and Applied Mechanics, and the workshops and drawing office will be opened to pupils on October 13. At Gonville and Caius College one or more Entrance Scholarships of values varying from 40*l.* to 80*l.* according to merit of candidates, will be awarded in Natural Science by an examination beginning on January 8 next. They are only open to candidates under nineteen years of age on the first day of examination, and are tenable only for one year, after which a foundation scholarship may be awarded. The subjects are Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Animal Physiology; two subjects at least are required, Chemistry being essential. Particulars of subjects may be learnt on application to the Senior Tutor, Rev. A. W. Steel. Scholarships may also be awarded for Mathematics and Natural Science combined.

The examination for Entrance Scholarships at Emmanuel College will commence on January 12. They are tenable in the first instance for two years. The subjects in Natural Science are Chemistry, Physics (including Dynamics and Hydrostatics), Elementary Biology, and Geology and Mineralogy. Candidates may also obtain scholarships for Mathematics and Natural Science combined. Mr. W. Chawner, the tutor, will supply all information.

Mr. A. Sedgwick, of Trinity College, Cambridge, will conduct the classes in Morphology which Prof. Balfour had announced for the present term.

### SCIENTIFIC SERIALS

*The Journal of Anatomy and Physiology (Normal and Pathological)*, vol. xvi. pt. iv., July, 1882, contains:—Observations in comparative myology, by Dr. Hans Gadov. The first section of this interesting paper is devoted to the important subject of a scientific nomenclature for muscles.—On fat embolism, by Drs. R. Saundby and G. Barling (with a plate).—On Micrococcus poisoning, by Dr. Alex. Ogston.—On the action of saline cathartics, by Dr. M. Hay (D and E series of experiments).—On a variety of pulmonary lobation and its relation to the thoracic parietes, as illustrated by comparative anatomy and abnormalities in the human subject, by Dr. W. Allen.—Prof. Gegenbaur, critical remarks on polydactyly as atavism; translated by Drs. Garson and Gadov.

*The American Naturalist* for August, 1882, contains—On the compass plant, by B. Alvord.—On the development of the tree-toad, by M. H. Hinckley.—On some entomostraca of Lake Michigan and adjacent waters, by S. A. Forbes.—Organic physics, by Charles Morris.—The Editor's table.—Recent literature.

The same for September, 1882, contains—The methods of microscopical research adopted in the Zoological Station in Naples, by C. O. Whitman.—Notes on the habits of the "Savannah cricket frog," by C. C. Abbott.—On the evolution of forms from the Clinton to the Niagara group, by E. N. S. Ringueberg.—On hypnotism in animals, by Dr. W. Prentiss.

*The Transactions and Proceedings of the New Zealand Institute* for 1882, being vol. xiv., edited by Dr. J. Hector, F.R.S., and published at Wellington, May, 1882, have just reached us. They form a royal octavo volume of over 600 pages and 39 plates.